

Surfing the Net

By Ricky W. Burk rburk@netten.net

Over the past several months, I have been amazed how many clinicians I have spoken with who say that they are utilizing the web in therapy. So often we tend to think of the web as a “research” tool, and turn the computer off when we are finished searching. Have you tried using the web in voice, fluency, articulation, or language therapy? If not, there’s a challenge waiting for your use of clinical skills in adapting to the inclusion of this new tool. Well, here’s a list to get you jump started, and as usual, it’s a combination of “research/info” style sites as well as some interactive ones.

<http://www.merck.com/pubs/mmanual>

The Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy, 17th edition

<http://www.wunderland.com/WTS/Jake/CubeArt> Rubik’s Cube Art - pictures formed by the variously colored faces of numerous Rubik’s Cubes arranged next to one another.

<http://www.howstuffworks.com>

Have you ever wondered how the engine in your car works or what makes the inside of your refrigerator cold? Then How Stuff Works is the place for you! Pick from a list that includes articles on cars, household items, computers, the human body, and you’ll find out how it works here in the easy-to-understand illustrated pages.

<http://www.voycabulary.com>

VoyCabulary is a powerful web tool which will link web pages or phrases to online references like dictionaries or thesauruses—This provides a convenient and speedy way to lookup words quickly and efficiently, without disrupting your normal web browsing. Simply enter an URL and Voycabulary transforms every word on that page into a link to a dictionary definition. This site really comes in handy when browsing pages of a technical or scholarly nature. Other options include the ability to switch to thesaurus entries and to translate pages into over a half dozen languages.

<http://library.advanced.org/26463/default.shtml>

The Human Brain: A Mystery to Itself was designed to be a fun, simple, and interactive environment where any one around the world can learn about the human brain. From the sections of the brain, to how drugs destroy it, this educational site describes the brain and how it affects our every day lives.

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/bearcam>

Wild Bearcam is live from Alaska’s McNeil River Sanctuary. Each summer Alaska’s McNeil Falls is the site of the world’s largest gathering of bears-up to nearly 60 at a time. Normally solitary, brown bears are drawn here by the tens of

thousands of salmon that spawn in McNeil River. Since 1973 only about 250 people a year have witnessed this natural wonder live. Until now. Until Wild Bearcam. (The picture may take a minute to load.) You will need Windows Media Player and a 56K connection.

http://www.biblio.tu-bs.de/acwww25u/wbi_en

This database contains about 2.4 million short biographical entries for prominent individuals who lived in North and South America, Western and Central Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and Oceania.

<http://www.puterweb.com/conjugue>

Linguistic software that conjugates verbs in 20 modern and extinct languages—French,[English], Spanish, Italian, Latin and many more. Just type in the infinitive and along with the various tenses the translation of that verb is provided in several other languages.

<http://www.rpg.net>

A terrific resource for role-playing game (RPG) enthusiasts. Includes information on how to play and design RPGs; links to game publishers, online stores, and magazines; an “encyclopedia” with links to historical, geographical, and mythological data; monthly columns and weekly reviews.

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/general/educate/ppcform/ppcform.htm>

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency offers a free kit on protecting the environment and includes a game.

<http://users.aol.com/nebula5/tcpinfo2.html>

The Costume Page talks about the history of clothing, from ancient civilizations to present

<http://helicopter.virtualave.net>

All about helicopters, information (over 400 different helicopters in database, with photos and datums). Wallpapers (over 150), animated GIF. English-Spanish

<http://dmarie.com/asp/history.asp?action=process>

Time Capsule allows you to enter your birthdate (or any other date from 1900 to 1997) and find out all sorts of information about that date including top news headlines, sports headlines, top songs, the President and Vice President, average income and the price of basic goods.

<http://www.pastrywiz.com/search>

Thousands of links to food sites with a special selection of food coupons and grocery coupons.

<http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock>

World clock - see the current time in cities all over the world.

<http://www.xe.net/ucc>

Currency converter